

# Math 123 Class notes Fall 2025

To accompany  
*Applied Calculus*  
by *Tan*

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## 1.4: Straight Lines

### Definition. (Slope of a Nonvertical Line)

If  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  are any two distinct points on a nonvertical line  $L$ , then the slope  $m$  of  $L$  is given by

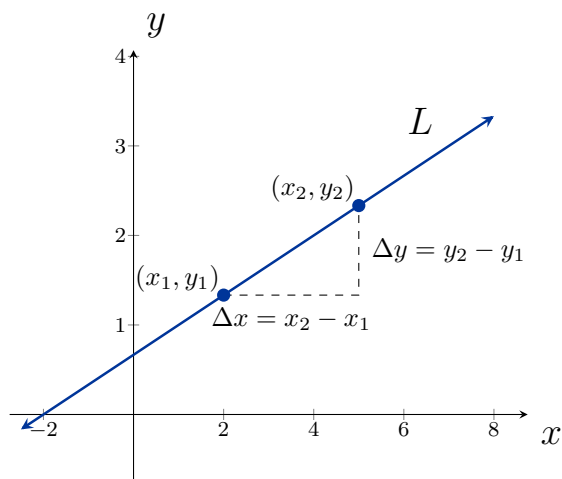
$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

**Example.** Compute the slope of the line passing through the points

$$(x_1, y_1) = (1, 1) \text{ and } (x_2, y_2) = (4, 2)$$

$$(x_1, y_1) = (3, 2) \text{ and } (x_2, y_2) = (-1, 2)$$

$$(x_1, y_1) = (4, 1) \text{ and } (x_2, y_2) = (4, 4)$$



**Definition. (Point-Slope Form of an Equation of a Line)**

An equation of the line that has slope  $m$  and passes through the point  $(x_1, y_1)$  is given by

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

**Example.** Find the equation of the line going through the points

$$(x_1, y_1) = (-2, 1) \text{ and } (x_2, y_2) = (3, -2)$$

$$(x_1, y_1) = (3, 4) \text{ and } (x_2, y_2) = (-1, 4)$$

$$(x_1, y_1) = (2, 0) \text{ and } (x_2, y_2) = (2, 1)$$

**Definition. (Slope-Intercept Form of an Equation of a Line)**

An equation of the line that has slope  $m$  and intersects the  $y$ -axis at the point  $(0, b)$  is given by

$$y = mx + b$$

**Example.** Rewrite the equations in the previous example in slope-intercept form.

**Definition. (Parallel and Perpendicular lines)**

Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be lines with slopes  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  respectively. If  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are *parallel*, then

$$m_1 = m_2.$$

If  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are *perpendicular*, then

$$m_1 = -\frac{1}{m_2}.$$

**Example.**

Find the line *parallel* to  $y = \frac{3}{2}x + 1$  that passes through the point  $(-4, 10)$ .

Find the line *perpendicular* to  $y = \frac{3}{2}x + 1$  that passes through the point  $(-3, 4)$ .

## Forms of Linear Equations

General form:  $Ax + By = C$

Point-slope form:  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

Slope-intercept form:  $y = mx + b$

Vertical line:  $x = a$

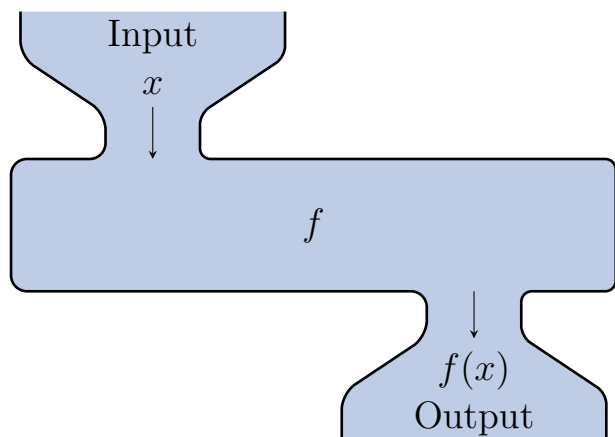
Horizontal line:  $y = b$

## 2.1: Functions and Their Graphs

### Definition.

A **function** is a rule that assigns to each element in a set  $A$  one and only one element in a set  $B$ .

In the context above, the set  $A$  is called the **domain**, and the set  $B$  is called the **range**.



**Example.** Let  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 2x + 1$ . Evaluate the following

$$f(1)$$

$$f(-2)$$

$$f(a)$$

$$f(a + h)$$



**Example.** Find the domain and range of the following functions:

$$f(x) = x$$

$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$y = \sqrt{x - 1}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{x^2 - 4}$$

**Example.** An open box is to be made from a rectangular piece of cardboard 16 inches long and 10 inches wide by cutting away identical squares ( $x$  inches by  $x$  inches) from each corner and folding up the resulting flaps. Find an expression that gives the volume  $V$  of the box as a function of  $x$ . What is the domain of the function?



**Definition.**

A **piecewise** function is a function with different definitions for different portions of the domain.

**Example.** Rewrite the following as piecewise functions:

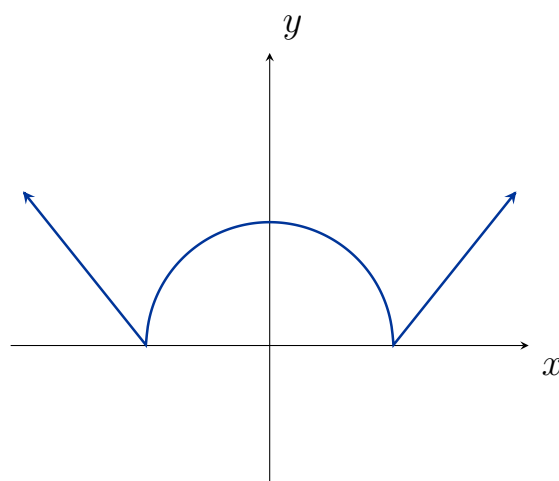
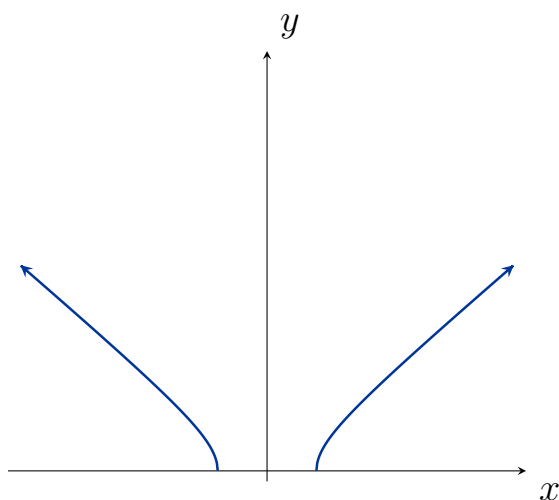
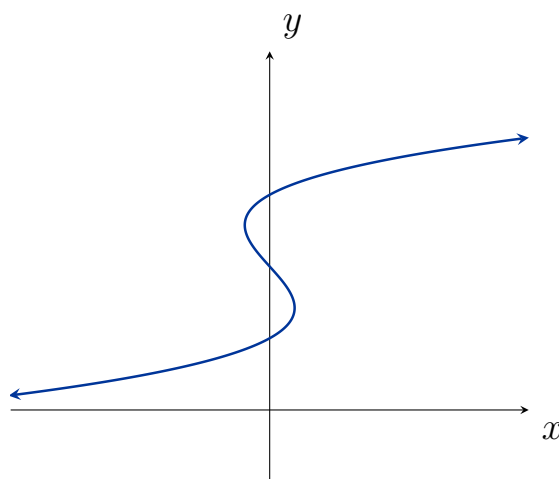
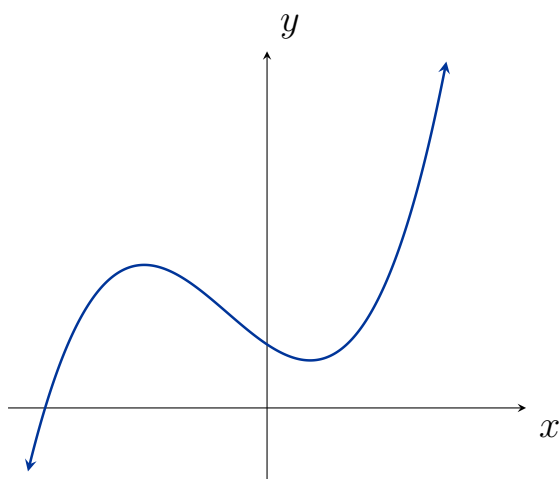
$$|x| = \qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{x}{|x|} =$$

$$|x - 1| + |4 - x| =$$

**Definition. (Vertical Line Test)**

A curve in the  $xy$ -plane is the graph of a function  $y = f(x)$  (an explicit function) if and only if each vertical line intersects it in at most one point

**Example.** Use the vertical line test on the following graphs to determine which graphs may represent an explicit function:



## 2.2: The Algebra of Functions

### Definition.

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions with domains  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. Then the **sum**  $f + g$ , **difference**  $f - g$ , and **product**  $fg$  of  $f$  and  $g$  are functions with domain  $A \cap B$ .

$$(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$$

$$(f - g)(x) = f(x) - g(x)$$

$$(fg)(x) = f(x)g(x)$$

The **quotient**  $f/g$  of  $f$  and  $g$  has domain  $A \cap B$  excluding all numbers  $x$  such that  $g(x) = 0$  and rule given by

$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$  and  $g(x) = 4 - x$ . Find the domain of the following:

$$f(x) + g(x) =$$

$$f(x) - g(x) =$$

$$f(x)g(x) =$$

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} =$$

**Definition. (The Composition of Two Functions)**

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions. Then the composition of  $g$  and  $f$  is the function  $g \circ f$  defined by

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$$

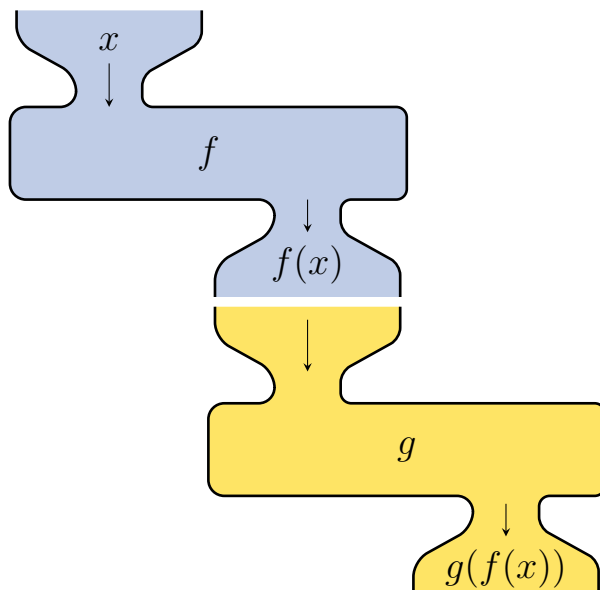
The domain of  $g \circ f$  is the set of all  $x$  is the domain of  $f$  such that  $f(x)$  lies in the domain of  $g$ .

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$  and  $g(x) = 4 - x$ . Find the domain of the following:

$$g(f(x)) =$$

$$f(g(x)) =$$

$$f(f(x)) =$$



## 2.4: Limits

**Example.** Suppose that the position function of a maglev train (in feet) is given by

$$s(t) = 4t^2, \quad (0 \leq t \leq 30)$$

Using the position function, compute the *average* velocity of the train

on the interval  $[t, 2]$

$t$	1.5	1.9	1.99	1.999	1.9999
<hr/>					

on the interval  $[2, t]$

$t$	2.5	2.1	2.01	2.001	2.0001
<hr/>					

What do the tables above suggest about *instantaneous* velocity of the train at  $t = 2$ ?

**Definition. (Limit of a Function)**

The function  $f$  has the **limit**  $L$  as  $x$  approaches  $a$ , written

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$$

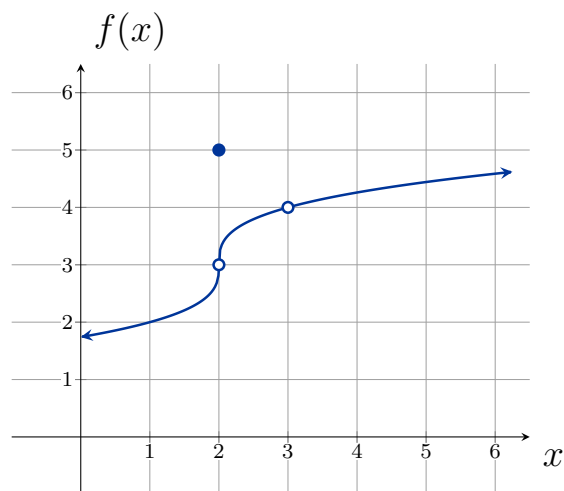
if the value of  $f(x)$  can be made as close to the number  $L$  as we please by taking  $x$  sufficiently close to (but not equal to)  $a$ .

**Example.** Using the graph of  $f$ , determine the following values:

$$f(1) \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$$

$$f(2) \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$$

$$f(3) \text{ and } \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$$





**Example.** Find the limit of the following functions at the value specified:

[Graphs](#)

$$f(x) = x^3 \quad \text{at } x = 2$$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x + 2, & x \neq 1 \\ 1, & x = 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{at } x = 1$$

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x < 0 \\ 1, & x \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{at } x = 0$$

$$j(x) = \frac{1}{(x-1)^2} \quad \text{at } x = 1$$

$$k(x) = 4 \quad \text{at } x = 0$$

### Theorem 1: Properties of Limits

Suppose

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = M$$

Then

1.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)]^r = \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right]^r$  where  $r$  is a positive constant
2.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} cf(x) = c \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$  where  $c$  is a real number
3.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = L \pm M$
4.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x)g(x)] = \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) \right] \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) \right] = LM$
5.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)} = \frac{L}{M}$  provided  $M \neq 0$

**Example.** Use the above theorem to evaluate the following limits:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (5x^{3/2} - 2)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{2x^3 \sqrt{x^2 + 7}}{x + 1}$$

Suppose that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$ . Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

has an **indeterminate form** of  $\frac{0}{0}$ . To evaluate such a limit, we replace the given function with a function that's equivalent everywhere except at  $x = a$ , and then evaluate the limit.

**Example.** Evaluate the following

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 2} \frac{4t^2 - 16}{t - 2}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4 + h} - 2}{h}$$

Suppose that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$  with  $L \neq 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$ . Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

does not exist. We can further specify if this limit tends towards  $-\infty$  or  $\infty$ .

**Example.** Evaluate the following

[Graphs](#)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x}{x - 1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{1}{(x - 3)^2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{x - 2}{x^2 - 4}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x - 2}{x^2 - 4}$$

### Limit of a Function at Infinity

The function  $f$  has the limit  $L$  as  $x$  increases without bound, written

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$$

if  $f(x)$  can be made arbitrarily close to  $L$  by taking  $x$  large enough.

The function  $f$  has the limit  $M$  as  $x$  decreases without bound, written

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = M$$

if  $f(x)$  can be made arbitrarily close to  $M$  by taking  $x$  to be negative and sufficiently large enough in absolute value.

When the above limits exist, the equations  $y = L$  and/or  $y = M$  are called **horizontal asymptotes**.

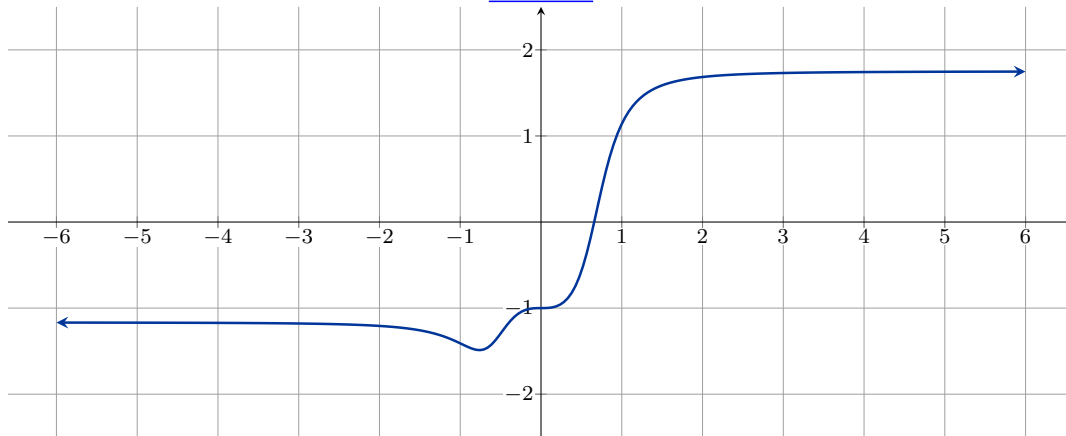
**Example.** Evaluate the following infinite limits

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 + 3x - 4}{x^2 - 7x + 1}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3x^2 + 4}{2x^3}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{3x^5 + 2x^3 - 4}{x^4 + 4x^2 - 1}$$

### Graph



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{7x^3 - 2}{-x^3 + \sqrt{25x^6 - 4}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{7x^3 - 2}{-x^3 + \sqrt{25x^6 - 4}}$$

**Example.** The company *Custom Office* makes a line of executive desks. It is estimated that the total cost of making  $x$  *Senior Executive Model* desks is

$$C(x) = 100x + 200,000$$

dollars per year. The average cost of making  $x$  desks is given by

$$\overline{C}(x) = \frac{C(x)}{x}$$

Compute  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \overline{C}(x)$  and interpret the result.

**Theorem 2**

For all  $n > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{x^n} = 0$$

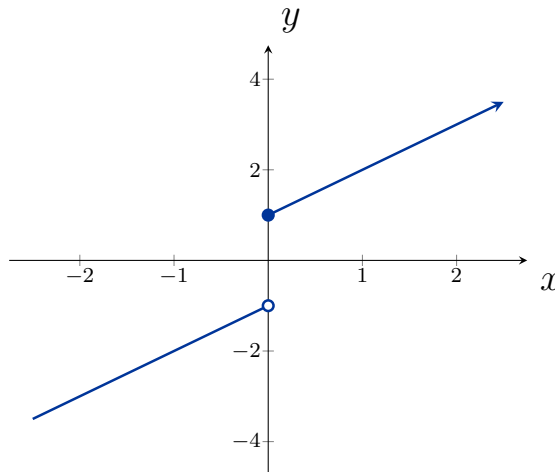
provided that  $\frac{1}{x^n}$  is defined.

## 2.5: One-Sided Limits and Continuity

Consider the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x - 1, & x < 0 \\ x + 1, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

What is  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ ?



### Definition. (One-Sided Limits)

The function  $f$  has a **right-hand limit**  $L$  as  $x$  approaches  $a$  from the right, written

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$$

if the values of  $f(x)$  can be made as close to  $L$  as we please by taking  $x$  sufficiently close to (but not equal to)  $a$  and to the right of  $a$ .

The function  $f$  has a **left-hand limit**  $L$  as  $x$  approaches  $a$  from the left, written

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = L$$

if the values of  $f(x)$  can be made as close to  $L$  as we please by taking  $x$  sufficiently close to (but not equal to)  $a$  and to the left of  $a$ .

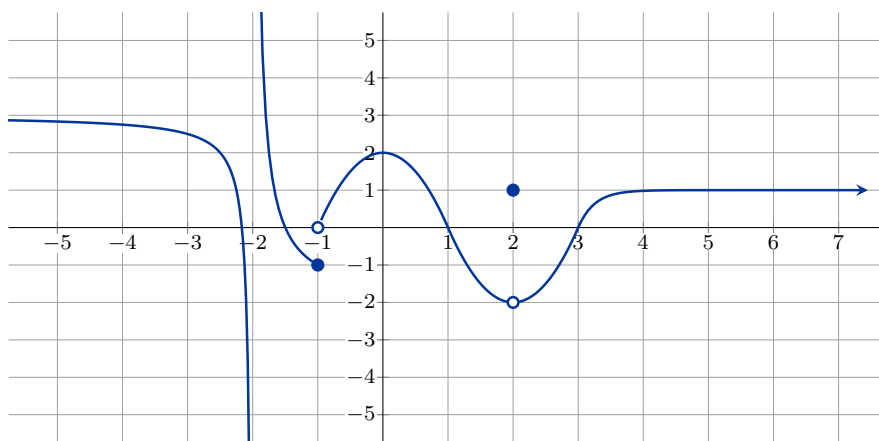


**Theorem 3**

Let  $f$  be a function that is defined for all values of  $x$  close to  $x = a$  with the possible exception of  $a$  itself. Then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = L$$

**Example.** Using the graph below, evaluate the following limits:



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^-} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} f(x)$$

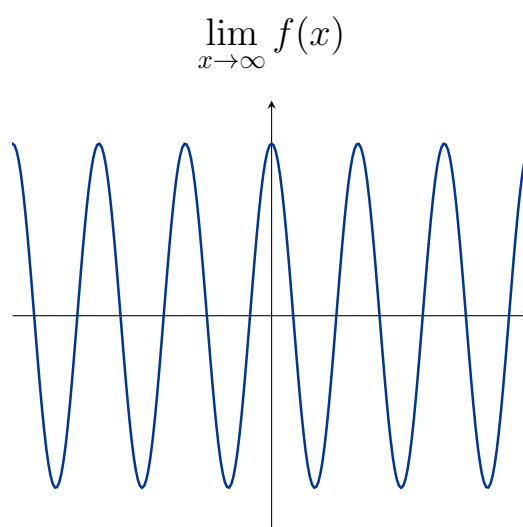
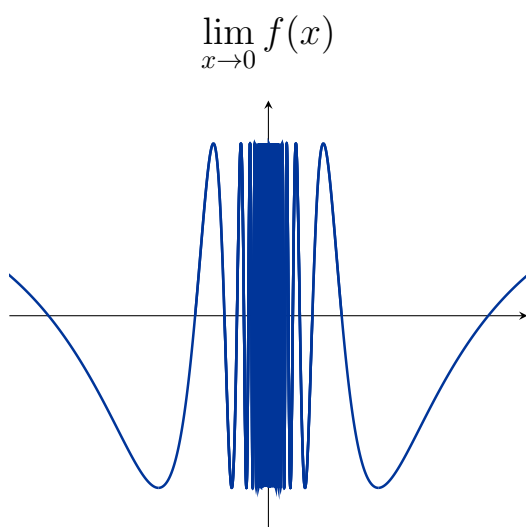
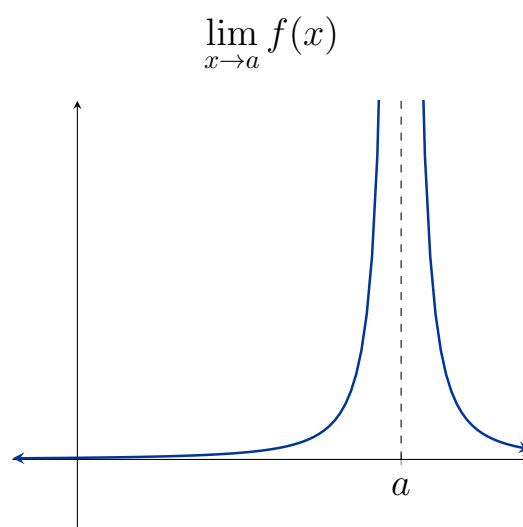
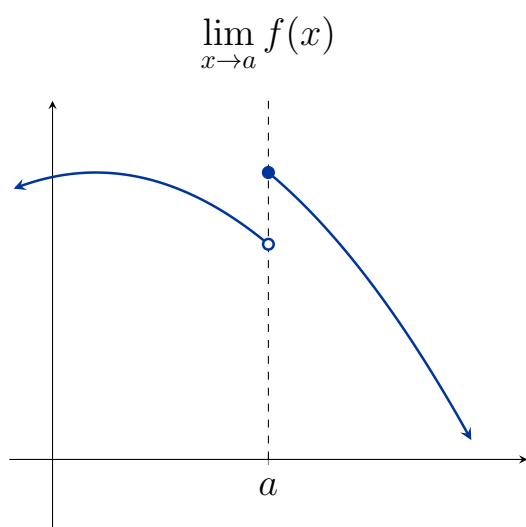
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$$

Below are examples where the limit does not exist:

[Graph](#)



**Definition. (Continuity of a Function at a Number)**

A function  $f$  is **continuous** at  $a$  if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$ .

**Continuity Checklist:**

In order for  $f$  to be continuous at  $a$ , the following three conditions must hold:

1.  $f(a)$  is defined ( $a$  is in the domain of  $f$ ),
2.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$  exists,
3.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$  (the value of  $f$  equals the limit of  $f$  at  $a$ ).

**Example.** Determine the values of  $x$  for which the following functions are continuous:

$$f(x) = 3x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 10$$

$$g(x) = \frac{8x^{10} - 4x + 1}{x^2 + 1}$$

$$h(x) = \frac{4x^3 - 3x^2 + 1}{x^2 - 3x + 1}$$

**Example.** Determine whether the following are continuous at  $a$ :

$$f(x) = x^2 + \sqrt{7-x}, \quad a = 4$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x-3}, \quad a = 3$$

$$h(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2+x}{x+1}, & x \neq -1 \\ 0, & x = -1 \end{cases}, \quad a = -1$$

$$j(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x, & x \geq 0 \\ -x & x < 0 \end{cases}, \quad a = 0$$

$$k(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2+x-6}{x^2-x}, & x \neq 2 \\ -1, & x = 2 \end{cases}, \quad a = 2$$

## Properties of Continuous Functions

1. The constant function  $f(x) = c$  is continuous everywhere.
2. The identity function  $f(x) = x$  is continuous everywhere.

If  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous at  $x = a$ , then

$[f(x)]^n$ , where  $n$  is a real number, is continuous at  $x = a$  whenever it is defined at that number

$f \pm g$  is continuous at  $x = a$

$fg$  is continuous at  $x = a$

$f/g$  is continuous at  $x = a$  provided that  $g(a) \neq 0$

## Polynomial and Rational Functions

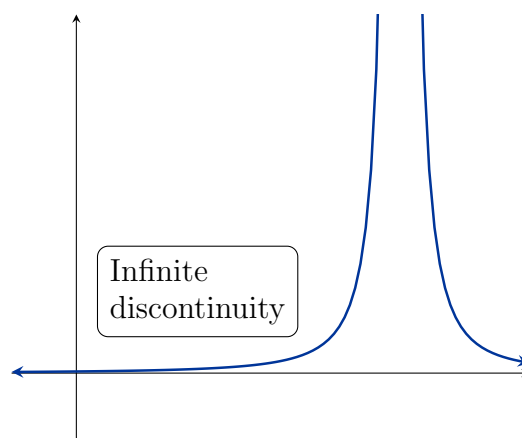
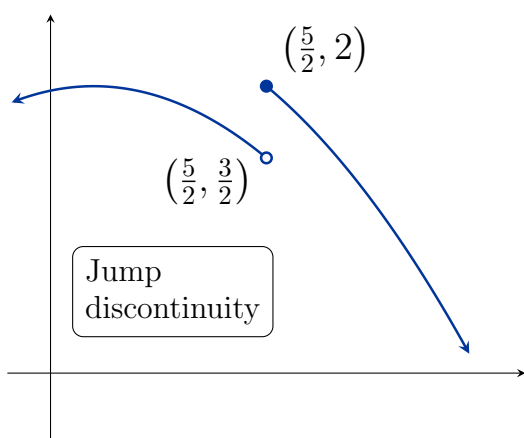
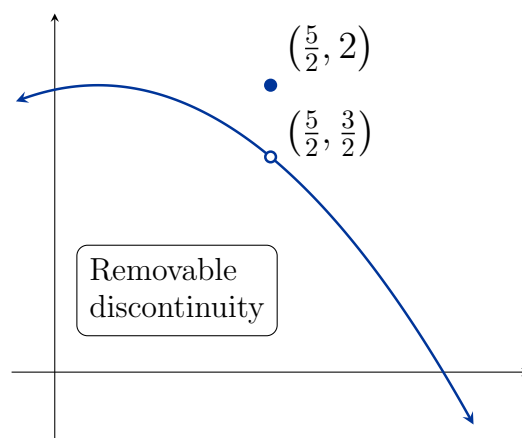
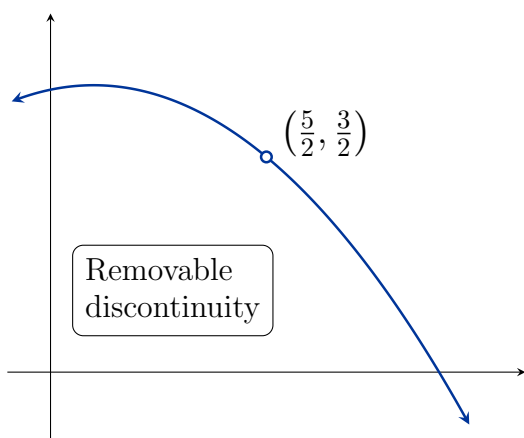
1. A polynomial function is continuous for all  $x$ .
2. A rational function (a function of the form  $\frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are polynomials) is continuous for all  $x$  for which  $q(x) \neq 0$ .

## Definition.

A **removable discontinuity** at  $x = a$  is one that disappears when the function becomes continuous after defining  $f(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ .

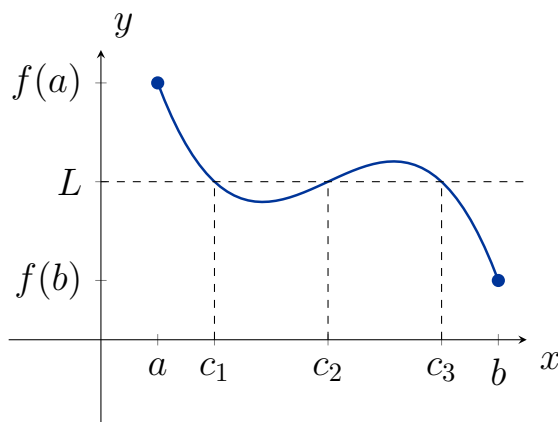
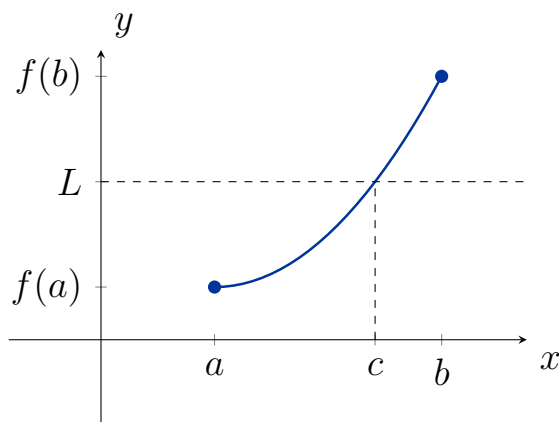
A **jump discontinuity** is one that occurs whenever  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$  both exist, but  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ .

A **vertical discontinuity** occurs whenever  $f(x)$  has a vertical asymptote.

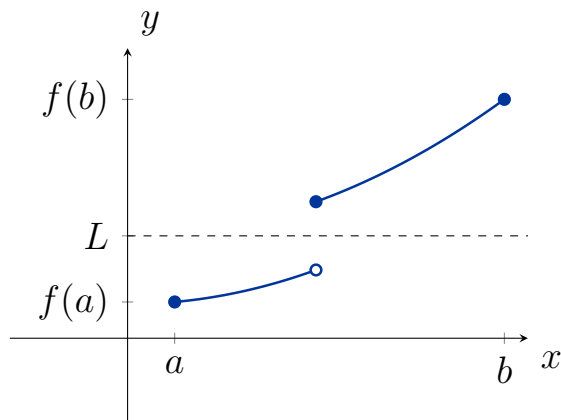


**Theorem 4: Intermediate Value Theorem**

Suppose  $f$  is continuous on the interval  $[a, b]$  and  $L$  is a number strictly between  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ . Then there exists at least one number  $c$  in  $(a, b)$  satisfying  $f(c) = L$ .



*Note:* It is important that the function be continuous on the interval  $[a, b]$ :

**Theorem 5: Existence of Zeros of a Continuous Function**

If  $f$  is a continuous function on a closed interval  $[a, b]$ , and if  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have opposite signs, then there is at least one solution of the equation  $f(x) = 0$  in the interval  $(a, b)$ .

**Example.** Check the conditions of the Intermediate Value Theorem to see if there exists a value  $c$  on the interval  $(a, b)$  such that the following equations hold: [Graph](#)

$$x^x - x^2 = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{on } [0, 2] \quad \sqrt{x^4 + 25x^3 + 10} = 5 \quad \text{on } [0, 1]$$

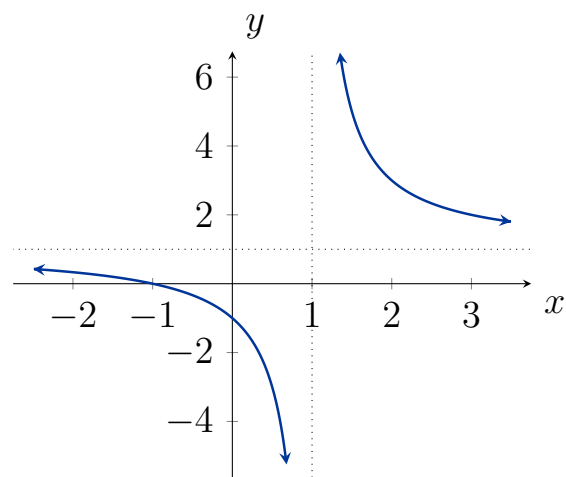
$$x + \sqrt{1 - x^2} = 0 \quad \text{on } [-1, 0] \quad \frac{x^2}{x^2 + 1} = 0 \quad \text{on } [-1, 1]$$



**Example.** Consider the function

$$f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x-1}$$

on the interval  $[0, 2]$ . Does there exist a  $c$  on the interval  $[0, 2]$  such that  $f(c) = 1$ ?



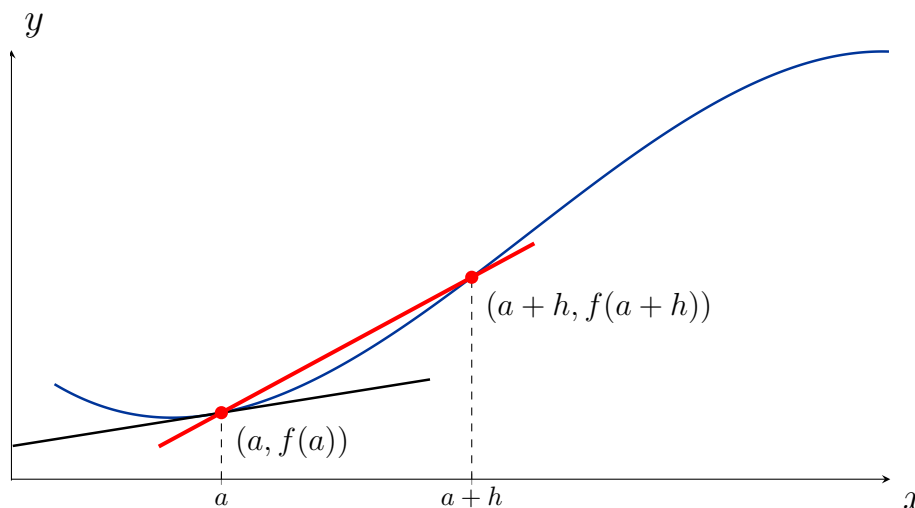
## 2.6: The Derivative

### Definition.

Given a function  $f(x)$ :

- the **secant line** is the line that passes through two *distinct* points lying on the graph of  $f(x)$ ,
- the **tangent line** is the line that intersects  $f(x)$  in exactly one place (locally) and matches the slope of the graph at that point.

[Graph](#)



### Definition. (Slope of a Tangent Line)

The slope of the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at the point  $P(x, f(x))$  is given by

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

if it exists.

**Definition. (Average and Instantaneous Rates of Change)**

The **average rate of change** of  $f$  over the interval  $[x, x+h]$  or **slope of the secant line** to the graph of  $f$  through the points  $(x, f(x))$  and  $(x+h, f(x+h))$  is

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

The above fraction is referred to as the **difference quotient**.

The **instantaneous rate of change** of  $f$  at  $x$  or **slope of the tangent line** to the graph of  $f$  at  $(x, f(x))$  is

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

**Definition. (Derivative of a Function)**

The derivative of a function  $f$  with respect to  $x$  is the function  $f'$  (read “ $f$  prime”),

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

The domain of  $f'$  is the set of all  $x$  for which the limit exists.

Some other notations for the derivative are

$$D_x f(x) \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} \qquad y'$$

**Example.** Find the slope of the line tangent to the graph  $f(x) = 3x + 5$  at any point  $(x, f(x))$

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = x^2$ .

- Find  $f'(x)$ .
- Compute  $f'(2)$  and interpret your result.

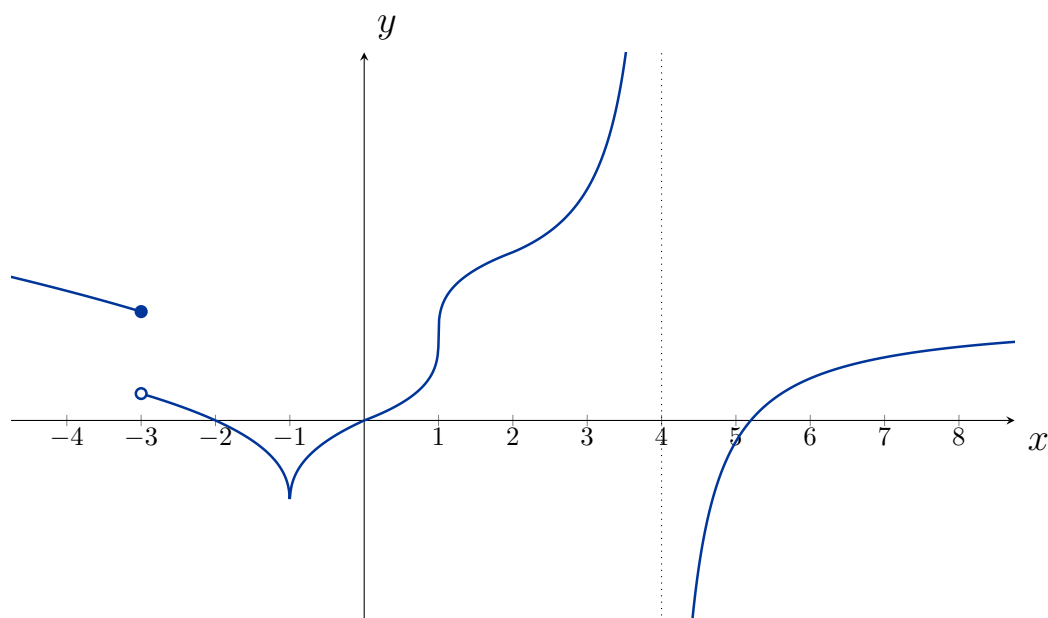
**Example.** Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 4x$ . Find the point on the graph where the tangent line is horizontal.

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ . Find the equation of the tangent line at  $x = 2$ .

## Differentiability and Continuity

If a function is differentiable at  $x = a$ , then it is continuous at  $x = a$ .

**Example.** For the graph below, identify each point where the derivative is undefined.



### 3.1: Basic Rules of Differentiation

#### Rule 1: Derivative of a Constant

$$\frac{d}{dx}[c] = 0$$

#### Rule 2: The Power Rule

If  $n$  is any real number, then

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^n] = nx^{n-1}$$

**Example.** Find the derivative of the following functions

$$f(x) = x$$

$$g(x) = x^8$$

$$h(x) = x^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

$$j(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$k(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x}}$$

$$\ell(x) = \pi^4$$

**Rule 3: Derivative of a Constant Multiple of a Function**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = c\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)]$$

**Rule 4: The Sum Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \pm g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] \pm \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)]$$

**Example.** Find the derivative of the following functions

$$f(x) = 5x^3$$

$$g(x) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$h(x) = 4x^5 + 3x^4 - 8x^2 + x + 3$$

$$j(t) = \frac{t^2}{5} + \frac{5}{t^2} + \pi$$



**Example.** Find the line tangent to the curve

$$f(x) = 2x + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$$

at the point  $(1, 3)$

[Graph](#)

**Example.** An experimental rocket lifts off vertically. Its altitude (in feet)  $t$  seconds into flight is given by

$$s = f(t) = -t^3 + 96t^2 + 5, \quad (t \geq 0)$$

Find an expression  $v$  for the rocket's velocity at any time  $t$ .

Compute the rocket's velocity when  $t = 0, 30, 50, 64$ , and  $70$ . Interpret your results.

Using the results from above and the observation that at the highest point in its trajectory the rocket's velocity is zero, find the maximum altitude attained by the rocket.

### 3.2: The Product and Quotient Rules

#### Rule 5: The Product Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \cdot g(x)] = f'(x) \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot g'(x)$$

*Note:*

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \cdot g(x)] \neq f'(x) \cdot g'(x)$$

**Example.** Find the derivative of the following functions

- by expanding
- by using the product rule

$$f(x) = (2x^2 - 1)(x + 3)$$

$$g(x) = x^3(\sqrt{x} + 1)$$

*Note:*

$$\frac{d}{dx}[fghj] = f'ghj + fg'hj + fgh'j + fghj'$$

**Rule 6: The Quotient Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$$

“Lo De Hi, minus Hi De Lo, over the square of what’s below”

**Example.** Find the derivative of the following functions

$$f(x) = \frac{3x^2 - 4x + 7}{x}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{x}{2x - 4}$$

$$h(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{x^2 - 1}$$

$$j(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x^2 + 1}$$

$$k(x) = \frac{3x(x^2 + 1)}{x^2 - 1}$$

### 3.3: The Chain Rule

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = (x^3 + x + 1)^2$ . Find  $f'(x)$   
using the product rule

by expanding

What about  $\frac{d}{dx} \left[ (x^3 + x + 1)^{100} \right]$ ?

## Composite Functions:

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be functions of  $x$ . Then, the **composite functions**  $g$  of  $f$  (denoted  $g \circ f$ ) and  $f$  of  $g$  (denoted  $f \circ g$ ) are defined as:

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$$

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$$

**Example.** 'Break-down' the following composite functions:

$$\frac{1}{x+3}$$

$$(x^4 + 3x - 8)^3$$

$$\left(\frac{1-x}{x^3+1}\right)^4$$

$$\frac{3}{\sqrt{(x+1)^2-1}}$$



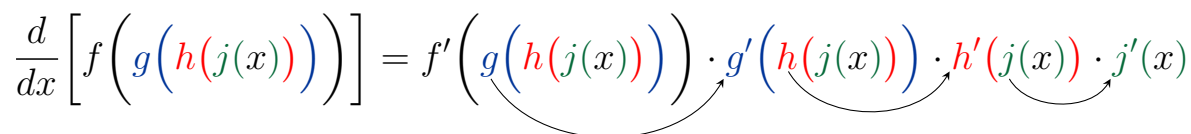
### Rule 7: The Chain Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))] = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

If  $y = f(u)$  and  $u = g(x)$ , then

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

*Note:*

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ f \left( g \left( h \left( j(x) \right) \right) \right) \right] = f' \left( g \left( h \left( j(x) \right) \right) \right) \cdot g' \left( h \left( j(x) \right) \right) \cdot h' \left( j(x) \right) \cdot j'(x)$$


### The General Power Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx}[(f(x))^n] = n(f(x))^{n-1}f'(x)$$

**Example.** Use the chain rule to show

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$$

**Example.** Find the derivative of the following functions

$$F(x) = (x^3 + x + 1)^{100}$$

$$G(t) = (3t + 1)^2$$

$$H(u) = \sqrt{u^2 + 1} - 3$$

$$J(\nu) = \nu^2(2\nu + 3)^5$$

$$\kappa(x) = (2x^2 + 3)^4(3x - 1)^5$$

$$\tau(x) = \frac{1}{(4x^2 - 7)^2}$$

**Example.** Find the equation of the line tangent to  $f(x)$  at  $\left(0, \frac{1}{8}\right)$

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{2x + 1}{3x + 2}\right)^3$$

**Example.** The membership of The Fitness Center, which opened a few years ago, is approximated by the function

$$N(t) = 100(64 + 4t)^{2/3} \quad (0 \leq t \leq 52)$$

where  $N(t)$  gives the number of members at the beginning of week  $t$ .

Find  $N'(t)$

How fast was the center's membership increasing initially ( $t = 0$ )?

How fast was the membership increasing at the beginning of the 40th week?

What was the membership when the center first opened? At the beginning of the 40th week?

**Rule 1: Derivative of a Constant**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[c] = 0$$

**Rule 2: The Power Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^n] = nx^{n-1}$$

**Rule 3: Derivative of a Constant Multiple of a Function**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = c\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)]$$

**Rule 4: The Sum Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \pm g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] \pm \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)]$$

**Rule 5: The Product Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \cdot g(x)] = f'(x) \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot g'(x)$$

**Rule 6: The Quotient Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right] = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$$

**Rule 7: The Chain Rule**

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))] = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

### 3.6: Implicit Differentiation and Related Rates

Implicit Functions

$$x^2y + y - x^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = 4$$

$$y^3 + y^2 - xy + \frac{x^4}{4} = y$$

Explicit Functions

$$y = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2 + 1}$$

$$y = \pm\sqrt{4 - x^2}$$

[Graph](#)

**Implicit Differentiation:**

1. Differentiate both sides of the equation with respect to  $x$ , treating  $y$  as a differentiable function of  $x$ .
2. Collect the terms with  $dy/dx$  on one side of the equation.
3. Solve for  $dy/dx$ .

**Example.** Find the derivatives of the following by rewriting each function explicitly before taking the derivative, and by using implicit differentiation. Compare the results.

$$y^2 = x$$

$$\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} = 4$$

**Example.** Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  given the equation

$$y^3 - y + 2x^3 - x = 8$$



**Example.** Consider the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ .

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  by implicit differentiation.

Find the slope of the tangent line to the graph of the function  $y = f(x)$  at the point  $(1, \sqrt{3})$ .

Find an equation of the tangent line.

**Related Rates:**

Related rates are problems that use a mathematical relationship between two or more objects under specific constraints. From this, we can differentiate this relationship and examine how each variable changes with respect to time.

The volume of a cone with radius  $r$  and height  $h$  is given by

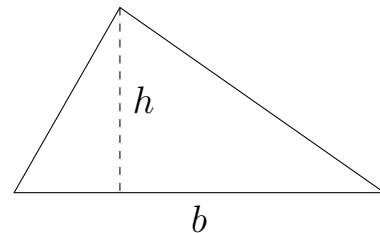
$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$$

Find  $dV/dt$  when  $r$  and  $h$  are changing.

Find  $dV/dt$  when  $r$  is constant and  $h$  is changing.

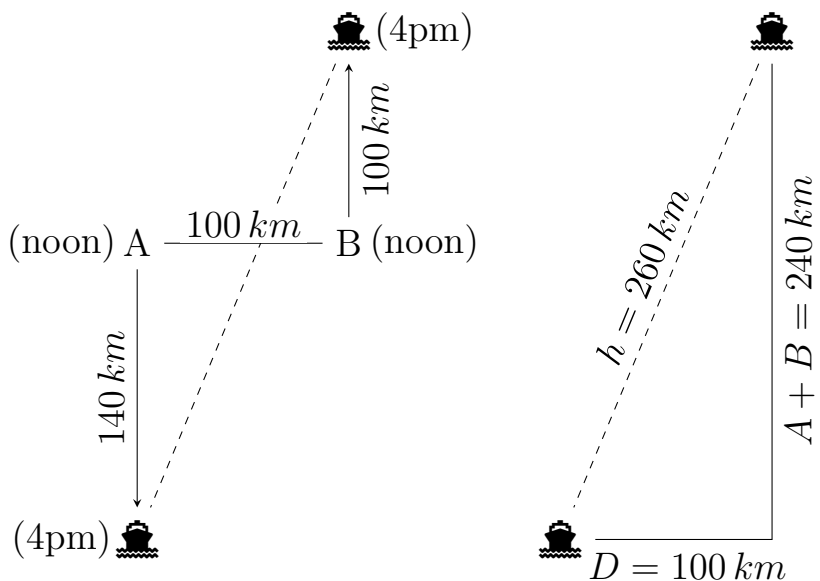
Find  $dV/dt$  when  $r$  is changing and  $h$  is constant.

**Example.** The altitude of a triangle is increasing at a rate of  $1\text{ cm}/\text{min}$  while the area of the triangle is increasing at a rate of  $2\text{ cm}^2/\text{min}$ . How fast is the base of the triangle changing when the altitude is  $10\text{ cm}$  and the area is  $100\text{ cm}^2$ .



**Example.** The base of a 13-ft ladder leaning against a wall begins to slide away from the wall. At the instant of time when the base is 12 ft from the wall, the base is moving at a rate of 8 ft/sec. How fast is the top of the ladder sliding down the wall at that instant of time?

**Example.** At noon, ship A is 100 km west of ship B. Ship A is sailing south at 35 km/h and ship B is sailing north at 25 km/h. How fast is the distance between the ships changing at 4pm?



### 3.5: Higher–Order Derivatives

**Definition.**

The **second derivative** of  $f$  is

$$f''(x) = \frac{d}{dx}[f'(x)] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x+h) - f'(x)}{h}$$

We can repeatedly take the derivative of  $f(x)$ :

$$f'(x), f''(x), f'''(x), \dots, f^{(n)}(x)$$

**Example.** Find all derivatives of

$$f(x) = x^5 - 7x^4 - 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 6x - 6$$

**Example.** Let  $f(x) = x^{2/3}$ . Find  $f'''(x)$ .

**Example.** Find the second derivative of  $y = (2x^2 + 3)^{3/2}$

**Example.** The position function of a maglev train (in feet) is given by

$$s(t) = 4t^2, \quad (0 \leq t \leq 30).$$

Find the velocity and the acceleration of the maglev train at time  $t$



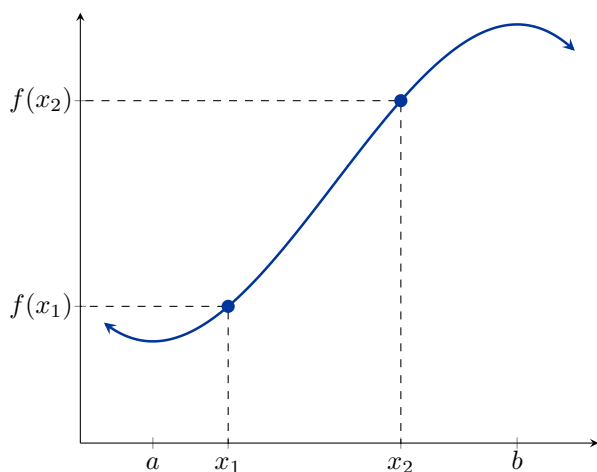
**Example.** Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  if  $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ .

## 4.1: Applications of the First Derivative

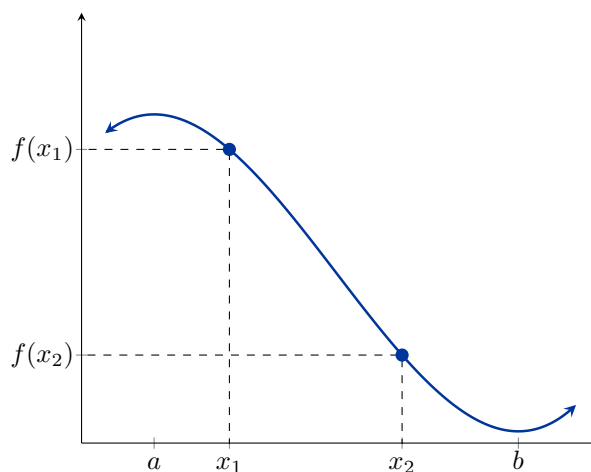
### Definition.

Consider the function  $f(x)$  on the interval  $(a, b)$ . Given *any* two numbers  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $(a, b)$  where  $x_1 < x_2$ , we say  $f$  is

increasing if  $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$



decreasing if  $f(x_1) > f(x_2)$



Thus, for every value of  $x$  on the interval  $(a, b)$ , if

- $f'(x) > 0$ , then  $f$  is increasing on  $(a, b)$ .
- $f'(x) < 0$ , then  $f$  is decreasing on  $(a, b)$ .
- $f'(x) = 0$ , then  $f$  is constant on  $(a, b)$ .

**Example.** Find the intervals where  $f(x) = x^2$  is increasing and decreasing.

**Determining intervals where a function is increasing or decreasing.**

1. Find all values of  $x$  such that  $f'(x) = 0$  or  $f'(x)$  is undefined.
2. Determine the sign of  $f'(x)$  on each open interval.

**Example.** Suppose that  $f$  is continuous everywhere and

$$f'(x) = \frac{(x-1)(x+2)}{(x-4)^2(x+5)}.$$

We see that  $f'(-2) = f'(1) = 0$  and  $f'(-5)$  and  $f'(4)$  are undefined. Complete a sign chart to show where  $f(x)$  is increasing and decreasing.

**Example.** Find the intervals where the following functions are increasing and decreasing:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 24x + 32$$

[Graph](#)

$$g(x) = (x + 1)^{2/3}$$

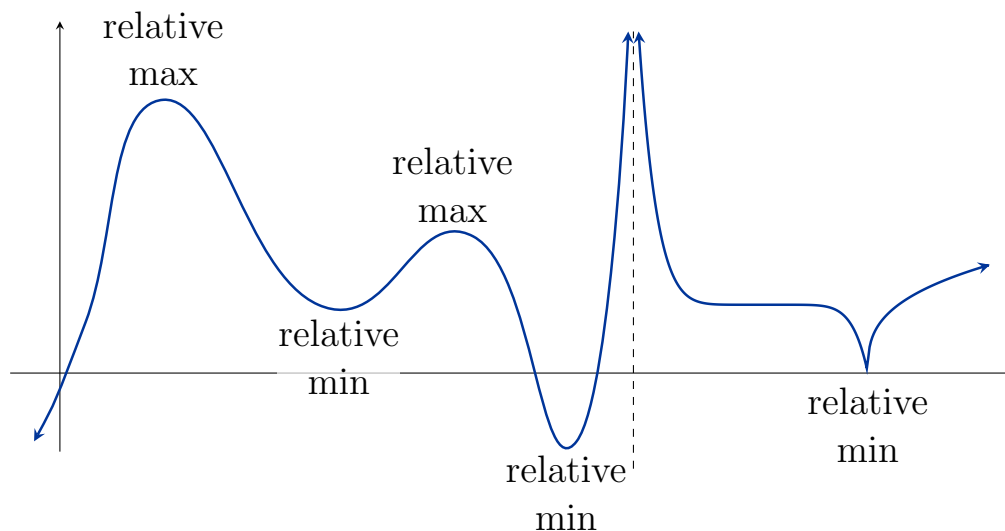
$$h(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$$

$$j(x) = \frac{x^2}{1 - x^2}$$

**Definition. (Relative Extrema)**



A function  $f$  has a

- **relative maximum** at  $x = c$  if  $f(c) \geq f(x)$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$
- **relative minimum** at  $x = c$  if  $f(c) \leq f(x)$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$

**Definition.**

A **critical point** of a function  $f$  is any number  $x$  in the domain of  $f$  such that  $f'(x) = 0$  or  $f'(x)$  does not exist.

### Procedure for Finding the Relative Extrema of a Continuous Function $f$ The First Derivative Test:

1. Determine the critical points of  $f$ .
2. Determine the sign change of  $f'(x)$  to the left and right of each critical point:  
If, at  $x = c$ ,  $f'(x) \dots$ 
  - a) changes sign from *positive* to *negative*, then  $f$  has a *relative maximum* 
  - b) changes sign from *negative* to *positive*, then  $f$  has a *relative minimum* 
  - c) does not change sign, then  $f$  does *not* have a relative extremumat  $x = c$ .

**Example.** Consider the function  $f(x) = 6x - x^3$ .

[Graph](#)

Use  $f'(x)$  to find the intervals on which the function is increasing and decreasing.

Identify the function's local extreme values (e.g. "local max of \_\_\_ at  $x = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ ")

**Example.** Find the relative maximums/relative minimums of the following:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 24x + 32$$

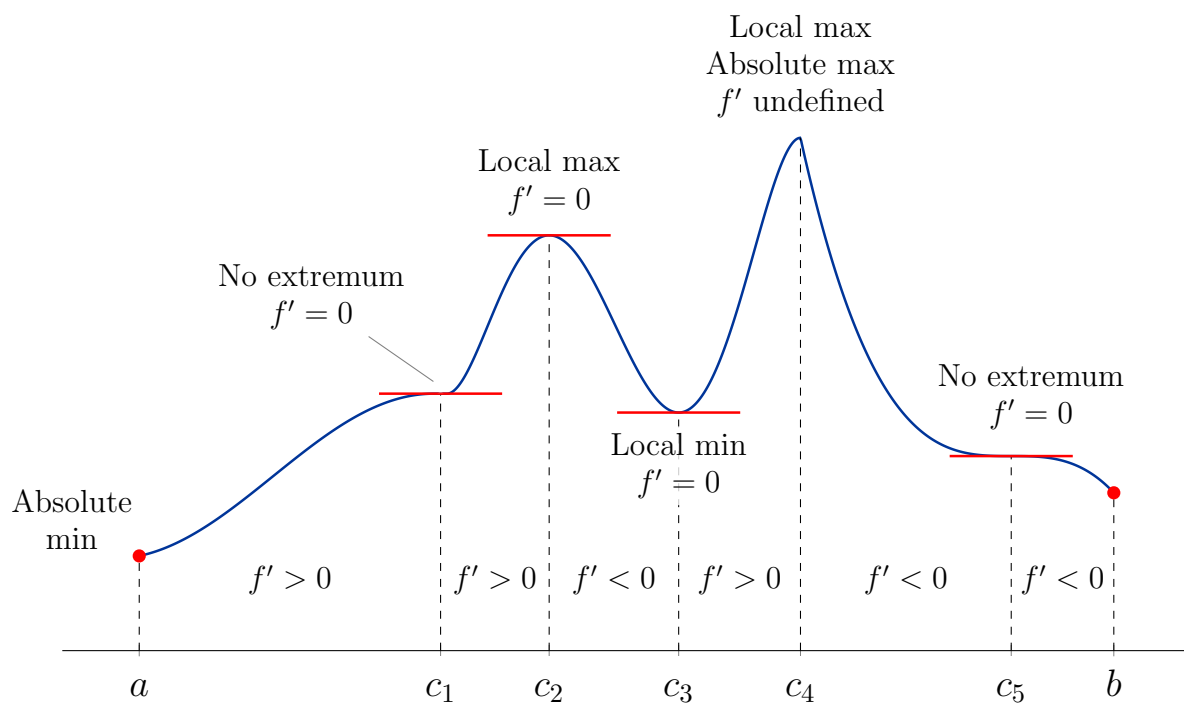
[Graph](#)

$$g(x) = (x + 1)^{2/3}$$



$$h(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$$

$$j(x) = \frac{x^2}{1 - x^2}$$

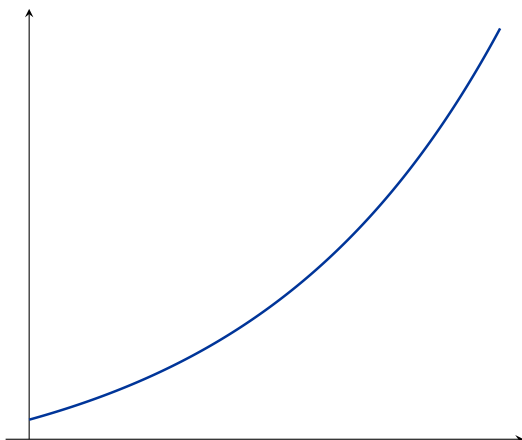


## 4.2: Applications of the Second Derivative

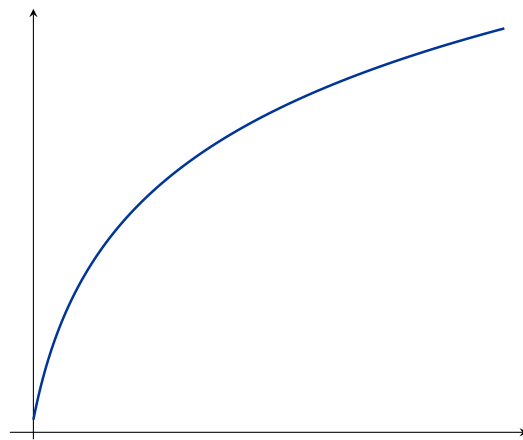
### Definition.

Consider any differentiable function  $f(x)$  on the interval  $(a, b)$ . We say  $f$  is

concave up if  $f'(x)$  is increasing



concave down if  $f'(x)$  is decreasing



Thus, for every value of  $x$  on the interval  $(a, b)$ , if



- $f''(x) > 0$ , then  $f'$  is increasing, and  $f$  is concave *up* on  $(a, b)$ .
- $f''(x) < 0$ , then  $f'$  is decreasing, and  $f$  is concave *down* on  $(a, b)$ .
- If  $f$  is continuous at  $c$  and  $f$  changes concavity at  $c$ , then  $f$  has an **inflection point** at  $c$ .

*Note:*  $f(x)$  is

- concave up if its tangent lines lie below the curve
- concave down if its tangent lines lie above the curve



### Determining the Intervals of Concavity of the Graph of $f$

1. Determine the values of  $x$  for which  $f''$  is zero or undefined.
2. Determine the sign of  $f''(x)$  to the left and right of each point from above:  
Let  $c$  be a convenient test point on the interval of interest. Then,
  - a) if  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  is concave up on that interval. 
  - b) if  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  is concave down on that interval. 

**Example.** Find the intervals where the following functions are concave up and concave down:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 24x + 32$$

[Graph](#)

$$g(x) = (x + 1)^{2/3}$$

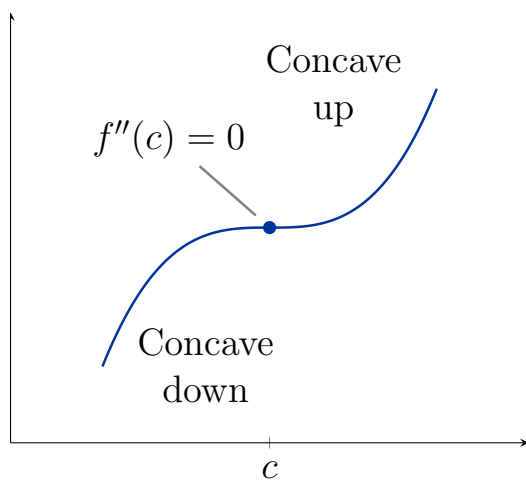
$$h(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$$

$$j(x) = \frac{x^2}{1 - x^2}$$

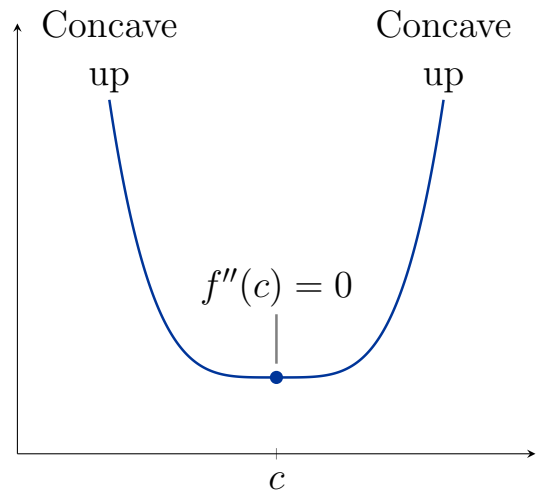
## Finding inflection points

1. Compute  $f''(x)$ .
2. Locate where  $f''(x) = 0$  or  $f''(x)$  does not exist.
3. Determine if the sign of  $f''(x)$  changes at the points found above.

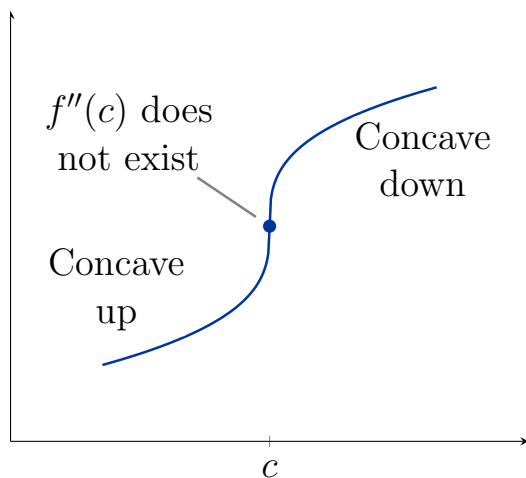
Inflection point at  $x = c$



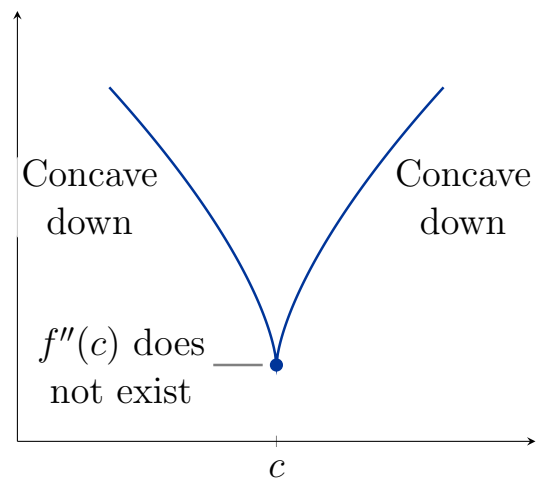
No inflection point at  $x = c$



Inflection point at  $x = c$



No inflection point at  $x = c$



**Example.** For the following functions, determine the intervals of concavity and find any inflection points.

$$f(x) = (x - 1)^{5/3}$$

[Graph](#)

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + 1}$$



### Second Derivative Test for Local Extrema

Suppose  $f''$  is continuous on an open interval containing  $c$  with  $f'(c) = 0$ .

- If  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a local minimum at  $c$ .
- If  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a local maximum at  $c$ .
- If  $f''(c) = 0$ , then the test is inconclusive;  $f$  may have a local maximum, local minimum, or neither at  $c$ .

**Example.** Find the relative extrema of

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 24x + 32$$

[Graph](#)

$f(x)$	$f'(x)$	$f''(x)$
increasing	positive	—
decreasing	negative	—
max/min	crit. pt. & changes sign	—
concave up	increasing	positive
concave down	decreasing	negative
Inflection point	max/min	crit. pt. & changes sign

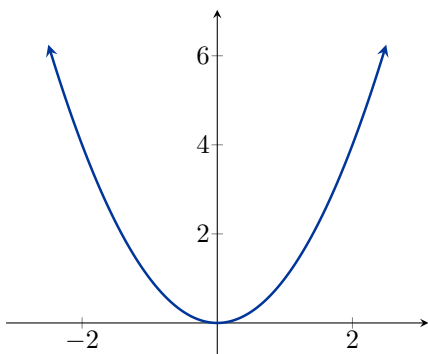
## 4.4: Optimization I

### Definition. (Absolute Extrema)

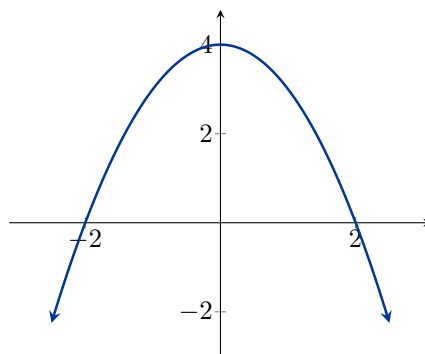
Let  $f$  be defined on a set  $D$  containing  $c$ . If

- $f(c) \geq f(x)$  for every  $x$  in  $D$ , then  $f(c)$  is an **absolute maximum** value of  $f$
- $f(c) \leq f(x)$  for every  $x$  in  $D$ , then  $f(c)$  is an **absolute minimum** value of  $f$

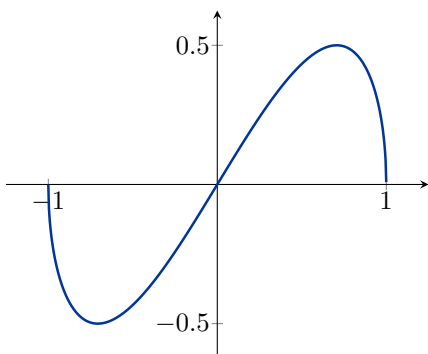
$f(0) = 0$  is the absolute minimum;  
No absolute maximum



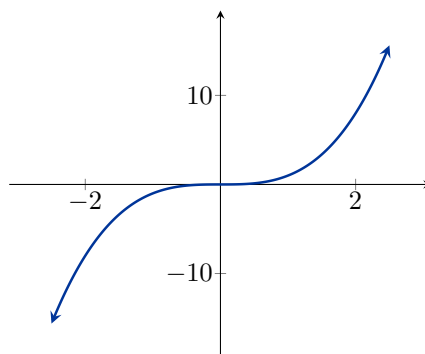
No absolute minimum;  
 $f(0) = 4$  is the absolute maximum



$f(-\sqrt{2}) = -\frac{1}{2}$  is the absolute minimum;  
 $f(\sqrt{2}) = \frac{1}{2}$  is the absolute maximum

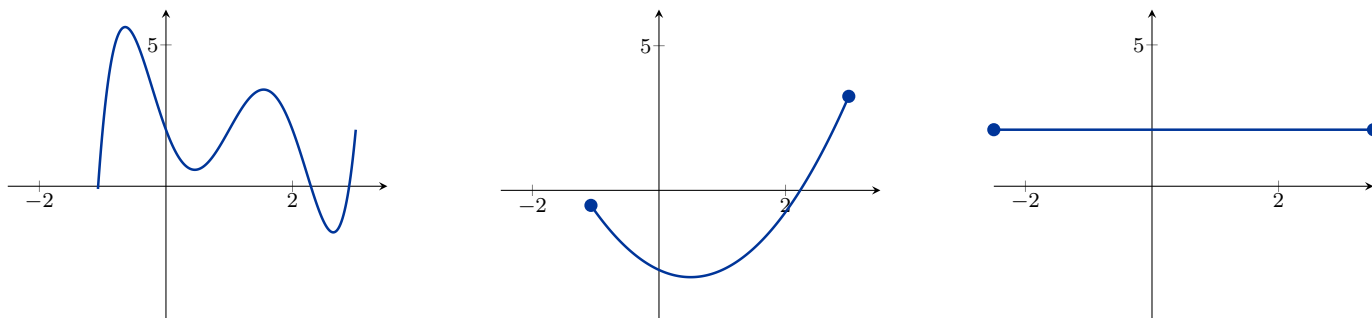


No absolute minimum;  
No absolute maximum

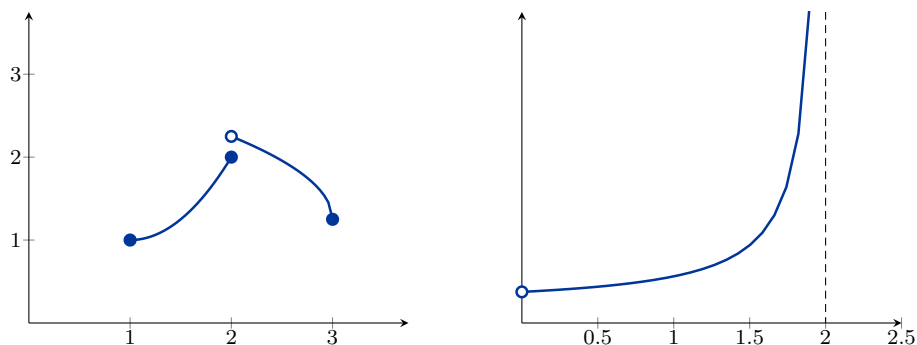


### Theorem 3

A function that is continuous on a closed interval  $[a, b]$  has an absolute maximum value and an absolute minimum value on that interval.



*Note:* It is important that the function is both continuous *and* the interval is closed:



### Finding the Absolute Extrema of $f$ on a Closed Interval

1. Find the critical points of  $f$  within the interval  $(a, b)$ .
2. Compute  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$ ,  $x = b$ , and at each of the critical points found above.
3. The absolute maximum and absolute minimum will correspond to the largest and smallest values found above.

**Example.** Find the absolute extrema of the following functions on the intervals indicated

$$f(x) = x^2 \text{ on } [-1, 2]$$

[Graphs](#)

$$g(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 4x + 4 \text{ on } [0, 3]$$

$$h(x) = x^{2/3} \text{ on } [-1, 8]$$

**Example.** The daily average cost function (in dollars per unit) of Elektra Electronics is given by

$$\overline{C}(x) = 0.0001x^2 - 0.08x + 40 + \frac{5000}{x} \quad (x > 0)$$

where  $x$  stands for the number of graphing calculators that Elektra produces. Show that a production level of 500 units per day results in a minimum average cost for the company.

**Example.** The altitude (in feet) of a rocket  $t$  seconds into flight is given by

$$s = f(t) = -t^3 + 96t^2 + 5 \quad (t \geq 0)$$

Find the maximum altitude attained by the rocket.

Find the maximum velocity attained by the rocket.